

48 Leeds Street
Doncaster C. 3109
18th July 1968

Dear George,

Owing to the heat we have not yet left for our holiday, but hope to go tomorrow, so I have written a copy of ~~me~~ what I have gathered of the family of George Robert Daws son of Robert & Martha Daws. If you are interested in details of the descendants of Tom, Edward & Francis Daws, I have got a few more details of their descendants than what I have already written. The only daughter or son living of the Daws brothers that came from England is Mabel Frederick daughter of Edward. Mabel lives with her daughter Phyllis at 82 McKinnon Rd McKinnon Phone 58-7202. I have not seen Mabel for over 10 years so do not know just how her memory is, but Phyllis may know more details.

Two things, underlined in red, in the "Family History" I am not sure of, but think they are correct.

I have not filled in your side of the family as I think you would know it better than I. Auntie Rubie might be able to add to my details or even correct them.

Robert Daws, a cabinet maker of Edgeware Road, London married Martha Champney.

During his life, Robert Daws was cabinet-maker to three kings of England. One of these, King George 3rd called him to the Palace and asked him to make a comfortable chair, and also a table at which he, the King, could take his meals in comfort.

Robert Daws set to work & as the King was a very stout man, he made a table with a concave curve in it. Then he made a chair which had a back that could be tilted at various angles, & a footrest that could be pulled out, from under the seat of the chair, when needed. At least 2 copies of this chair were sent out to Australia. One was sent to Edward Daws (son of Robert) & is in the possession of Edward Wilson, Furniture Designer of Geelong (Great grandson of Edward Daws). Another was sent to George Daws & is now in the home of Emmie Clarke, 30 Edinburg St. Box Hill, (grand-daughter of George Daws.)

Robert & Martha Daws were Roman Catholics. Because of a disagreement with the Priest, Robert broke from R.C. so the sons were brought up without a religion & were told they could be any religion but R.C. The daughters all stayed with their mother in the R.C. faith.

"Daws" Family history from details I have gathered.

Three sons of Robert Daws (George, Edward & Thomas) all carpenters, packed their tools & one at a time left their work (so that the employers would not realize what was happening) & sailed from England in a small yacht the "Kate Karney". The Daws brothers were the only passengers. The voyage took 6 months & they arrived here in 1854, landing at Sandridge. The day after they arrived they started work on Government House in St. Georges Rd. Toorak. (This 30 roomed white towered mansion was Victoria's first Government House from 1854-1878. In 1956 it was purchased from Colonel Alan Spowers whose family had owned it since 1900, by the Swedish Church to serve as a Swedish community center. Portion of the building becoming a chapel.)

The wages paid to carpenters in 1854, was £1 per 8 hr day.

The Daws Bros. later bought land in Collins St. & conducted a business

The Gold Rush in Ballarat started, so they sold their business & went there where they started the "Madame Berry" mine.

Tom went back to England, married Jane then returned to Australia.

George & Edward opened a store & Bakery in Kingston (near Creswick)

George, in 1866, married Elizabeth Smith at Blanket Flat now Eganstown, Victoria. They lived in Kingston where Emma (died as a baby) Robert, Emma Edward, Frank, ^{died in Dromana aged 4 yrs} I think, Harry, were born.

In 1875, George wife & family moved to Dromana where George became the baker & later had a boarding house. ^{Bert Davis was born in Dromana.} About 1890 they moved to High St. Armadale & later to Spencer Crescent East Camberwell where George died in 1899. Elizabeth died at East Doncaster July 1925.

My Father was in South Africa from 1896 to 1913 & he lost touch with a lot of the relatives, so what I have written I have gathered from what Rosa Daws (sister of Mabel Pederick) told me about 1955 & what I was able to find out from questions I asked Uncle Bob, & from Marriage & Birth certificates.

All I want returned, of what I am sending you, are the cuttings from Newspapers.

I do hope what I have gathered will be of some use to you.

Yours sincerely

Gladys Peter-Budge.

P.S. Rev. C. K. Daws has a strong resemblance to Uncle Bert., but Rev. Daws will not own to any relationship. He thinks he is a descendant of Charles Daws, who deserted his wife sometime about 1890. Rev. Daws was brought up in Eaglehawk.

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